GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:277
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2003
EXPANSION OF COASTAL SHIPPING
VIRENDRA KUMAR

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for the expansion of coastal shipping operations;

(b) if so, the facilities available at present;

(c) whether any step is being taken for the expansion of coastal shipping in 2003-04; and

(d) if so, the details of the areas identified therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI)

(a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) No such facilities are available at present.

(c) Yes Sir. It has since been decided by the Government to carry out a study on development of coastal shipping and Minor Ports through appointment of consultant.

(d) The areas identified in the terms of reference for the study are as follows:-

(i) To identify cargo that can be diverted to coastal shipping from other modes of transport and the steps needed to achieve such a diversion.

(ii) To evaluate future traffic potential for coastal movement in the next ten years, including the nature and volume of cargoes with their origins-destinations, including availability of return cargo.

(iii) To study the availability of coastal routes and explore the possibility of developing new ones to meet existing and potential demand.

(iv) To identify minor ports (either existing or yet to be established), for use by coastal shipping, keeping in view rail/road connectivity and hinterland linkage and to recommend the infrastructure needed at such ports.

(v) To examine the possibility of establishing an integrated transport system between coastal ships and Inland Water Transport and suggest specific locations for this.

(vi) To prepare a plan of action that will operationalize the above and to give broad cost estimates thereof.